

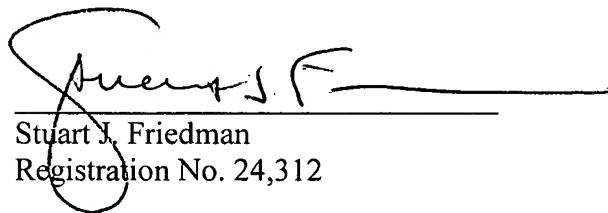
REMARKS

The originally filed PCT claims have been deleted and new claims 12-18 have been substituted therefore in order to reduce the overall number of claims and to correct improper multiple dependencies.

This Preliminary Amendment has assumed that the claims on file in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are the originally filed PCT claims, as translated into English and submitted herewith. Applicant also submits, for the record, amendments to the specification and amended claims 1-7, which were filed under one of Articles 19 and 34. However, Applicant was unable to determine whether these amended claims had been transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Additionally, inasmuch as they are being submitted herewith in a form which is not a page-for-page replacement of the English language translation of the originally filed PCT application, they may not be in proper form for entry. For this reason, this Preliminary Amendment proceeded from the originally filed PCT claims.

It is believed that new claims 12-18 are in condition for examination and examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Stuart J. Friedman
Registration No. 24,312

Law Offices of Stuart J. Friedman, P.C.
28930 Ridge Road
Mt. Airy, MD 21771
Telephone: (301) 829-1003
Facsimile: (301) 829-4107